

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00130 151355Z

51

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 EB-11 COME-00 L-03 IO-14

INT-08 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-04 PRS-01

NSF-04 DRC-01 /108 W

----- 104557

R 142034Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2490

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 0130

FOR SCI/CHAPIN AND POLLACK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN INTEREST IN WEATHER MODIFICATION

1. SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE CONFIRMS AND AMPLIFIES TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN SCIATT AND DEPT/SCI AND NOAA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE, JANUARY 11, ABOUT CANADIAN CONCERNS REGARDING PROPOSED WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. THE HISTORY OF EXTAFF/SCI INTEREST IN WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES INVOLVING TRANSBORDER EFFECTS IS REVIEWED AND RELATE TO THE WASHINGTON STATE PROPOSAL. THE FUTURE COURSE OF EXTAFF'S CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER WILL PROBABLY INVOLVE PROPOSALS FOR BILATERAL TALKS AND POSSIBLY REFERRAL OF SUBJECT TO IJC FOR STUDY. GUIDANCE IS REQUESTED FROM THE DEPARTMENT WHICH WOULD PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH BACKGROUND FOR KNOWLEDGEABLE RESPONSE TO THIS ANTICIPATED CANADIAN INITIATIVE. END SUMMARY.

*

2. SLIGHTLY OVER*ONE YEAR AGO, TECHNICAL GROUP FROM CANADIAN WEATHER SE*VICE VISITED EXTAFF/SCI TO BRIEF THEN DIRECTOR BRUCE AND DEPUTY SPENCER ON TATUS AND BACKGROUND OF GREAT LAKES WEATHER MODIFICATION EXPERIMENTS BEING DIRECTED FROM NOAA'S BOULDER LABOR-ATORIES. THIS GROUP REPORTEDLY HAD SITTING MEMBERS ON EXPERI-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OTTAWA 00130 151355Z

MENTAL DESIGN AND REVIEW COMMITTEE. BRIEFING WHICH WAS

ALMOST COMPLETELY TECHNICAL REPRESENTED FIRST EXPOSURE OF EMBASSY SCIATT, BRUCE AND SPENCER, TO OPERATING DETAILS OF WEATHER MODIFICATION WORK WITH CROSS-BORDER IMPLICATIONS IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. EXTAFF OFFICERS PRESENT INDICATED DESIRE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TECHNICAL DETAILS AND CONSULT WITH COUNTERPARTS IN STATE DEPT WITH VIEW TO DEVELOPING POLICY AND COMMON REGULATIONS WHICH WOULD MINIMIZE DANGER OF DISAGREEMENTS OR MISUNDERSTANDINGS ARISING FROM WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES.

3. DURING ENSUING YEAR EXTAFF/SCI PERSONNEL SPORADICALLY RAISED SUBJECT BUT THERE WAS CLEARLY NO ONGOING PURPOSEFUL ACTIVITY UNDERWAY. ON LATE AFTERNOON JANUARY 10, HAFLEY, CURRENT DIRECTOR OF EXTAFF/SCI CALLED SCIATT TO INFORM HIM THAT CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DELIVER NOTE FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, INFORMING DEPT OF GOC'S CONCERN ABOUT IMPENDING WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES IN STATE OF WASHINGTON DESIGNED TO INCREASE SNOWFALL IN SAGGAT RIVER VALLEY FOR PURPOSE OF RAISING LEVEL OF WATER IN HYDRO RESERVOIRS. HAFLEY INDICATED THAT NOTE WOULD:

(A) APPROPRIATELY NOTE THAT GOC WAS AWARE USG AT FEDERAL LEVEL DID NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE FINAL JURISDICTION;

(B) REQUEST BEST OFFICES OF DEPT IN BRINGING GOC'S VIEW TO ATTENTION GOVERNOR OF STATE OF WASHINGTON, AND

(C) SUGGEST THAT WHOLE MATTER OF WEATHER MODIFICATION AS IT RELATES TO POSSIBLE TRANS-BORDER EFFECTS BE REFERRED TO IJC FOR CONSIDERATION AND EVENTUAL DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES COVERING FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

4. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH SCIATT, HAFLEY INDICATED THAT DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN "EXCITED" ABOUT PROPOSED STATE OF WASHINGTON ACTIVITIES AND HAD SOUGHT TO HAVE MUCH STRONGER NOTE WITH NO POSITIVE CONTENT SENT. SCIATT GATHERED IMPRESSION THAT AT THE INSISTENCE OF EXTAFF/SCI, PROPOSAL TO REFER MATTER TO IJC WAS INCLUDED AS A POSITIVE GESTURE DESIGNED TO DEVELOP POLICY AND GUIDELINES WHICH WOULD PERMIT BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO EVENTUALLY REAP WHATEVER BENEFITS MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FROM WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES WITHOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 OTTAWA 00130 151355Z

INCURRING UNDUE RISK.

5. ON JANUARY 11, HAFLEY INFORMED SCIATT THAT NOTE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE DELIVERED BECAUSE EXTAFF HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON INDICATING THAT (A) PROPOSED ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN CANCELLED BECAUSE OF INCREASED PRECIPITATION FROM NATURAL CAUSES WHICH, IN VIEW OF WASHINGTON STATE OFFICIALS, OBTIATED NEED FOR ARTIFICIAL INDUCEMENT; (B) CANADIAN EMBASSY

HAD LEARNED THAT DEPT HAD ALREADY SUGGESTED TO THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON THAT PROPOSED WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES NOT BE CARRIED OUT.

5. SPECULATING ON FUTURE COURSE, HAFLEY INDICATED THAT HE PROPOSED NOW, IN VIEW OF WASHINGTON STATE SITUATION, TO PROCEED WITH LONG PENDING INTERAGENCY MEETING TO DEVELOP INHOUSE PRELIMINARY VIEWS VIS-A-VIS WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES. (FYI: THIS MEETING IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 28.) WITHIN "REASONABLE" TIME THEREAFTER HAFLEY WOULD HOPE TO CONVENE A BILATERAL CANADIAN-U.S. MEETING TO THOROUGHLY AIR THE MATTER INCLUDING: (A) STATE OF THE ART; (B) WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES UNDERWAY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER (SASKATCHEWAN RESEARCH COUNCIL HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN HAIL SUPPRESSION STUDIES FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND CANADIAN WEATHER SERVICE HAS FOLLOWED AMERICAN ACTIVITIES AND CONDUCTED SMALL SCALE EXPERIMENTS ON ITS OWN.); (C) LEGAL IMPLICATIONS; AND (D) HOW BEST TO HANDLE THE PROBLEM IN THE FUTURE. PRESUMABLY, TIMING FOR RECEIVING A PROPOSAL FOR A BILATERAL MEETING WOULD BE EARLY FEBRUARY WITH THE MEETING A MONTH OR TWO THEREAFTER.

6. FYI: ALTHOUGH NOT EVEN EXTAFF/SCI THINKING CLEARLY SOLIDIFIED AT THIS POINT, SCIATT GAINED DEFINITE IMPRESSION IN DISCUSSION THAT WHAT HAD BEEN A STOPGAP SUGGESTION TO REFER MATTER TO IJC SEEMS TO BE GAINING MORE SUPPORT WITHIN GOC.

7. ALTHOUGH DURING HOME LEAVE IN 1972, SCIATT VISITED NOAA'S BOULDER LABORATORIES AND CONSULTED WITH WEATHER MODIFICATION PERSONNEL THERE, AND HAD BRIEF DISCUSSION ON SUBJECT IN NOAA HEADQUARTERS IN OCTOBER 1973, THESE SHORT OPPORTUNITIES DID NOT REPEAT NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN SUFFICIENT BACKGROUND ON CURRENT STATE OF THE ART AND FUTURE PROGRAM PLANNING. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SOONEST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 OTTAWA 00130 151355Z

APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL BACKGROUND MATERIAL TO ASSIST IN OBTAINING BETTER PROGRAM AND TECHNICAL UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES.*

8. FINALLY, IN ORDER FOR US TO BE IN A POSITION TO RESPOND APPROPRIATELY AND FULLY TO THE ANTICIPATED CANADIAN APPROACH IN FEBRUARY, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING WHATEVER ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE THE DEPT MAY CONSIDER DESIRABLE, E.G. OVERALL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS, LEGAL ASPECTS, ETC.
SCHMIDT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, WEATHER MODIFICATION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974OTTAWA00130
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740143/aaaaboxp.tel
Line Count: 164
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <23 MAY 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANADIAN INTEREST IN WEATHER MODIFICATION
TAGS: TPHY, CA, US, STATE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005